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# THE Dreadful Effects of going to Conjurers.

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## A Full and True RELATION How one Mrs. Eſther Ruſhway,

IN THE

Pariſh of St. *GILES*'s, after having, on *Friday*, loſt a conſiderable quantity of *Plate* and *Mony*, went, for finding the Thief out, to enquire of an *Aſtrologer* in *Moor-fields*, who ſhew'd her the *Faces of Three Perſons in a Glaſs*, telling her, *They were the Thieves*: But ſcarcely was ſhe gotten out of his Doors, e're ſuch a *terrible Tempeſt* of Wind aroſe, as oblig'd her to take ſhelter in a certain *Ale-houſe* there hard by, where ſhe twice fainted away in declaring what ſhe had done.

*More particularly,*

How her *Conſcience* accus'd her, when ſhe came to herſelf, *for going*, as ſhe ſaid, *to the Devil for Council*; *for which*, quoth ſhe, *as a Sign of God's Diſpleaſure, and a heavier Puniſhment approaching on me, Heaven has pleas'd to raiſe this prodigious Storm.*

*Together with,*

An Account of *great Damages* ſuſtain'd by the *late boiſterous Wind* on ſeveral *Market-people*, *Chair-men*, &c. that were out late that *Night*, particularly of the *great Loſſes at Sea*.

*Licens'd according to Order.*

A*Mongſt all the Dreadful Scenes Time hath tranſmitted unto us of prodigious Storms and Tempeſts, rais'd by Satan and his wicked Agents, none hath been more Amazing and Terrible than the Relation I am now going to make, a Wonder already ſpread on the Wings of Fame, and well known in the Pariſh of St. Giles's. It is thus:*

Mr. *Rowland Ruſhway*, a Gentleman of *good Account and Reputation*, having, on *Friday* laſt, loſt *Plate* and *Mony* to a very *conſiderable Value*, his Wife, *Heſter* by Name, was ſo extraordinarily mov'd and concern'd thereby, that in *great paſſion* ſhe ſolemnly ſwore, (calling on God to witneſs what ſhe deſign'd) *That if all the Cunning-Men in and about London could tell, ſhe would certainly be inform'd who the Thief was*; again ſwearing, *Although it coſt her Ten Pounds*. Purſuant to this her Reſolution, ſhe forthwith *repair'd to a Cunning-Man*, otherwiſe call'd *a Judicial Aſtrologer*, near *Moor-fields*; the Day being then clear, and, as ſhe her ſelf related, free from any *Storm* or *Tempeſt*. The *Aſtrologer*, (from the *Querent's* Relation, we are informed) after ſome *little private Conſult in his Cloſet*, came down to this ſaid *Gentlewoman*, and, having her into a *Parlour*, in a *ſpacious* Looking-*glaſs* there plac'd, ſhew'd her the *full proportion* of *one Man* and *two Women*; *The Perſons*, ſaid the Conjurer, *that had her Plate and Mony*; then asking her, *Whither ſhe knew them?* She anſwer'd, *No*. *Then*, quoth he, *I fear you will ſcarce ever have your Goods again*. Which ſaid, receiving his Fee, the *Woman* was diſmiſs'd: But ſcarcely, as ſhe reported, had ſhe *gone three Roods from the Houſe*, but ſuch a very *tempeſtuous Storm of Wind*, accompanied with a *violent Shower of Rain* happen'd, as oblig'd her to take ſhelter in a *Victualling-houſe* hard by, where, being no ſooner ſeated by the *Fire*, but her *Conſcience* accus'd and her *Mind* gave her, *that ſhe had done very ill, in having recourſe to this ſaid Cunning-man*, whom then ſhe thought as no other than *Satan's Agent*, deeming ſuch things could never be done without the *diabolical black Art*; upon which, reaſoning in her Mind, to the *great Aſtoniſhment* of the People, in whoſe Houſe ſhe was, ſhe fainted away: Being pretty well recover'd, and urg'd by them to declare, *Whither ſhe had any Diſtemper on her?* She freely confeſs'd her trouble, as aforeſaid, again ſwooning in the very Relation; in ſhort, they were conſtrain'd to put her in a *Coach* to have her home, by the by obſerving, as ſhe thought, that the *Tempeſt*, whil'ſt ſhe remain'd in the Houſe, ceaſed. Being come Home, her *trouble* and *diſquietude of Mind and Spirit* ſo much increas'd, that by no manner of *Arguments* whatſoever her *Husband* could reconcile her, but that ſhe had certainly conſulted the *Devil*: *And moreover*, quoth ſhe, *God hath certainly rais'd this prodigious Storm and Tempeſt as a Token* of *his VVrath and Juſt Diſpleaſure*, *and as an Earneſt of the ſeverer Puniſhment I ſhall ſhortly undergo*. Theſe and abundant ſuch like *Expreſſions* were utter'd with ſuch a *fervency of Spirit*, and attended with ſuch a *deluge of Tears* and often *fainting*, as could not but draw a *general pity*; however, her but too remiſs *Husband*, attributing all to *female frailneſs*, left her to go about ſome *earneſt Buſineſs*, which oblig'd him that *Night* out of Town.

It is indeed incredible to relate what ſeveral *Chair-men*, *Market-folk* and *other perſons*, whoſe Concerns oblig'd them to be out late that Night, relate of this *dreadful Storm*, which was ſo great, that the firſt could not ſtand nor the laſt ride. But to return from whence I am digreſs'd: Her *Husband* remains now in little leſs Agony than his *VVife* was, as fearing the ſmall Notice he took of her deep Concern and Trouble hath contributed to her Misfortune, as poſſibly giving ſome opportunity to this her ſo very ſtrange conveyance away: But leaving this to the further Diſcovery, which time will undoubtedly make, I ſhall here ſubjoyn ſome other *diſmal Effects* of the late *Tempeſtuous Storm*: And firſt a Houſe, in or near *VVood-cloſe*, had one end entirely blown down, tho' very happily, no Man's Life taken away or Limbs prejudiced: But the ſame good fate hath not attended the Sea, for, beſides the great Damages, ſeveral Ships and Veſſels have received in their Cables and Rigging, a Tilt-boat was caſt away, and three Perſons periſhed. It's much to be fear'd, greater Damages will be heard of, ſince even here, on Shore, the Wind was ſo extraordinary violent, as to blow up by the very Roots, great and ſtrong Oaks, no leſs than three ſuch ſtately Trees in *Gray's-Inn-VValks* having that fatality.

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